your master." He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, "Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours." But his master answered him, "You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that what we offer in the sight of your majesty
may obtain for us the grace of being devoted to you and gain us
the prize of everlasting happiness

Communion Antiphon

To be near God is my happiness,
to place my hope in God the Lord.

Prayer after Communion

We have partaken of the gifts of this sacred mystery, humbly imploring,
O Lord, that what your Son commanded us to do in memory of
him may bring us growth in charity.

Thirty-Third Sunday

Year A

15th November 2026

Keeping Watch While Working for the Lord

During these last weeks of the Church's Year, the readings focus on the second coming of Jesus at the end of time. Because some Christians got overly focused on when Jesus would come, Paul reminds the Thessalonians and us that our task is not to figure out when Jesus would come again but to live in such a way that we would be ready when He does come. The wife in the Book of Wisdom is a portrait of responsible readiness. She uses the talents God gave her to meet the responsibilities of her state in life and respond to the needs of the poor, the marginalised and the powerless. Like the wise woman, two of the servants in Jesus' parable use the talents God gives them to advance the Kingdom of God. One servant was concerned only to cover himself and preserve what he has. He opts for security, fearing to lose what has been entrusted to him.

Entrance Antiphon

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction.
You will call upon me, and I will answer you,
and I will lead back your captives from every place.

Collect

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, the constant gladness of being
devoted to you, for it is full and lasting happiness to serve
with constancy the author of all that is good.

PROVERBS 31: 10-13, 19-20, 30-31

An excellent wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels. The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain. She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life. She seeks wool and flax, and works with willing hands. She puts her hands to the distaff, and her hands hold the spindle. She opens her hand to the poor and reaches out her hands to the needy.
Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

The kind of wisdom the Scriptures visualise in the first reading today is a way of life that is born of walking humbly with God. A way of life that is inspired by the presence of God's Spirit. When I live in such a way and when I am consciously aware of God's presence, it creates an inner strength; but it is always a strength that manifests itself in gentleness, in humility, in self-sacrifice, and in kindness.

PSALM: 128(127):1--5.
Response: *Blessed are all who fear the LORD.*

Blessed are all who fear the LORD, and walk in his ways! By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be blessed and prosper.

Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive around your table.

Blessed are all who fear the LORD. Indeed thus shall be blessed the husband who fears the LORD. May the LORD bless you from Sion. May you see Jerusalem prosper all the days of your life!

1 THESSALONIANS 5: 1-6

Concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you have no need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, 'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you are not in darkness, brothers and sisters, for that day to surprise you like a thief. For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

Paul identifies himself and the Christians in Thessalonica as "children of light, children of the day." They are enlightened by the Holy Spirit, joned with the Risen Christ, filled with joy and hope. Do my family, friends and neighbours see me as a child of light?

Alleluia, Alleluia! Abide in me, and I in you, says the Lord.
Whoever abides in me bears much fruit. Alleluia!

MATTHEW 25: 1-13

Jesus told his disciples this parable, 'The kingdom of heaven will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money.
'Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, "Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master." And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, "Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of